

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.


CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the below-listed information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 31,588

Patent Administrator
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS
525 West Monroe Street
Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693
Facsimile: (312) 902-1061

Marked-up Claims

5. (Once Amended) A shoe as in claim 3₁ [or 4] wherein
[,] said load distributor is a series of stepped notches.

6. (Once Amended) A shoe as in claim 3₁ [or 4] wherein
[,] said load distributor is a contoured recess.

7. (Once Amended) A shoe as in claim 1 [, 2, 3, or 4]₁
wherein [,] said force redirector provides pivotal movement of said
upper surface.